

## **New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual**

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## FOSTER PARENT MOVING OUT OF STATE

3-27-2007

When a foster parent informs the Worker that he plans to move to another state temporarily or permanently and indicates a desire to have the foster child go with the family, a decision is made as quickly as possible whether it is in the child's best interest to accompany the foster parent. The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) requires that all interstate placements be arranged through the Interstate Services Unit's Compact Administrator. See CP&P-VIII-D-1-200.

**Time frames** - According to the ICPC, Regulation No. 1:

If the child is to be sent to the receiving state more than forty-five (45) days in the future, the normal procedures of ICPC for an interstate placement are initiated. However, the ICPC-100A and the information accompanying it clearly indicate that the family unit is relocating but is not yet in the receiving state. As much information as reasonably possible is given to the receiving state concerning the location and character of the intended family home in the receiving state.

If the decision to relocate into another state is less than forty-five (45) days before the date of relocation, the following procedures take place:

- An ICPC-100A and its supporting documentation are prepared immediately by the Worker.
- The documentation is processed promptly, no more than 15 days after the child has relocated to the receiving state, by the Interstate Services Unit.
- The documentation is then transmitted to the receiving state's Compact Administrator.

• The Interstate Services Unit requests that the receiving state provide prompt handling of the case.

Within thirty (30) days of being notified by New Jersey's Interstate Services Unit or by the foster parent(s) that the foster parent(s) and the child have arrived in the receiving state, the receiving state makes initial contact with the foster parent(s) to begin the foster home study process.

**Documentation** - The following documentation is provided with a request for prompt handling:

- 1. ICPC-100A
- 2. A copy of the court order with custody, or order of compliance, indicating that the sending agency has authority to place the child.
- 3. A case history for the child
- 4. A copy of the most recent license, certificate or approval of the qualification of the foster parent(s), and/or their home
- 5. A copy of the most recent home study of the foster parent(s)
- 6. A copy of the child's permanency plan
- 7. A copy of the child's Title IV-E eligibility determination

Interstate services are not needed if a foster child is going out-of-state for a visit. A "visit," as defined by the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, is less than 30 days or for the duration of school vacation.

CP&P retains full financial and planning responsibility for out-of-state foster children in accordance with the guidelines for the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. Cases must remain open on foster children who move out-of-state until the time that the case would normally be terminated.

The foster parent is informed of the procedures for continuing board payments which are contingent on the Office Manager's approval. See <u>CP&P-VIII-D-2-400</u>. The foster parent is provided with information for obtaining medical and/or other services in the other state. See also <u>CP&P-V-A-2-600</u>, Medicaid Coverage for IV-E Children Moving out of or into New Jersey, and <u>CP&P-V-A-2-700</u>, Medicaid Coverage for Children Placed Out-of-State.

The foster parent is also advised of the necessity for CP&P to obtain courtesy supervision from the appropriate out-of-state agency, and that some states, like New

Jersey, require that all foster parents be licensed by the state licensing authority. If the foster home does not meet the standards of the new state of residence, corrective action must be taken, if the child's placement in the foster home is to continue.

The Interstate Compact Administrator or similar authority in the other state is advised of the proposed move and asked to provide courtesy supervision. The request is transmitted through the Interstate Services Unit. Supervision and periodic reports are generally provided by the out-of-state agency.

The Interstate Services Unit reviews and forwards the material to the appropriate office in the other state, including any special instruction or request which is indicated. Specific arrangements are made with the out-of-state agency for parental visits. CP&P is responsible for renegotiating visitation agreements previously made with the parent. The Interstate Services Unit forwards a copy of the reply from the other state agency regarding acceptance of courtesy supervision and a copy of the signed ICPC-100A to the Local Office for their information and file.

## PROCEDURES RELATED TO RESOURCE PARENT MOVING OUT OF STATE WITH CHILD IN PLACEMENT 2-6-2006

RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION REQUIRED	
Worker and Supervisor	Review resource parent's plan to move out-of-state and request to take the child.	
	Review child's legal status and determine if parental consent to move the child out of state is required.	
Worker	3. Obtain a court order granting CP&P custody of the child, an Order of Compliance, or pursue other court action, as appropriate, to permit child to accompany resource family's move out of state.	
	Advise resource parent of procedure for:	
	<ul> <li>continuing board payments,</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>obtaining medical providers and other special services,</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>continuing supervision by an</li> </ul>	

	out-of-state agency and possible licensing requirements.
	5. Complete CP&P Form <u>16-76</u> , Special Approval Request.
Office Manager	6. Review Special Approval Request, CP&P Form 16-76, and approve, if appropriate.
Worker	7. Prepare letter and accompanying materials to out-of-state agency for transmittal through the Interstate Services Unit.
Supervisor	8. Review, approve and forward letter and accompanying materials to the Interstate Services Unit for transmittal to the appropriate out-of-state agency.
Interstate Services Unit -Compact Administrator	Review and forward packet to appropriate out-of-state agency.
	10. Forward a copy of OSA reply to the Local Office.
Worker	11. Update NJS.
	12. Notify the Office of Licensing and the Resource Family Support Unit that the resource parent has moved out of state.